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MUSK LIMITS POST VIEWS ON TWITTER

1,000 posts

Twitter has limited the number of tweets users can view each day. Unverified users will get locked out for the day after viewing 1,000 posts. The limit is 10,000 posts for Twitter Blue subscribers. New unverified users can only view 500 posts

Move to check data scraping

Twitter owner Elon Musk called it a temporary measure to prevent unauthorised scraping of user data. Companies use artificial intelligence and other tools to scrape data from Twitter to generate leads for their businesses

7,500 People reported being locked out of Twitter on Sunday

₹900 per month is the cost of Twitter Blue subscription in India

Maha drama as Ajit Pawar is dy CM

Eight other NCP leaders take oath as ministers in the Shinde-Fadnavis govt in Maharashtra

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

IN a big setback to Opposition unity ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Nationalist Congress Party leader Ajit Pawar on Sunday joined the Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra as deputy chief minister, while eight others from the party took oath as ministers.

The sudden move also means a vertical split in the NCP, founded by Ajit Pawar's uncle Sharad Pawar in 1999. However, Ajit Pawar claimed there was no split in the party and that he and his supporters would contest all future elections on the party's name and symbol.

Earlier in the day, Ajit Pawar called a meeting of the MLAs and leaders supporting him at his residence. Later, they went to the Raj Bhavan.

Apart from Ajit Pawar, the other NCP leaders who took oath as ministers in the Eknath Shinde-Devendra Fadnavis government on Sunday are Chhagan Bhujbal, Dilip Walse Patil, Hasan Mushrif, Dhananjay Munde, Aditi Tatkare, Dharmarao Atram, Anil Patil and Sanjay Bansode.

NCP working president Praful Patel and general secretary Sunil Tatkare were also present during the swearing-in ceremony along with Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis.

Around 30 NCP MLAs have reportedly extended support to Ajit Pawar. NCP has 53 MLAs and nine MLCs. Elections to the 288-member state Assembly are due next year.

Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais with deputy CM Ajit Pawar, CM Eknath Shinde, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and NCP leader Praful Patel are also seen | ANI

This is the third time that Ajit Pawar has become the deputy chief minister in the past four years. Earlier, he was the deputy CM in the short-lived Devendra Fadnavis' government in 2019. He was again deputy CM in the Uddhav Thackeray government.

According to sources, the decision to join the Shinde-Fadnavis government was finalsed after Ajit Pawar, Sunil Tatkare and Praful Patel met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Delhi a few days ago.

"After splitting the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra, the BJP wanted to break the NCP and damage Opposition unity ahead of the Lok Sabha elections," said a senior leader.

Soon after taking oath as deputy CM, Ajit Pawar praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his governance focusing on development. "I will try to get maximum funds for Maharashtra from the Centre," he added.

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CORRUPTION CASES AGAINST NCP LEADERS

AJIT PAWAR: Faces money-laundering probe by ED in connection with alleged financial irregularities at Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank

CHHAGAN BHUJBAL: Spent time in jail after ED arrested him in connectin with awarding multi-crore contracts to build Maharashtra Sadan in Delhi

HASAN MUSHRIF: Faced multiple raids by income tax dept and ED in connection with alleged irregularities in the functioning of Sar Senapati Santaji Ghorpade Sugar Factory and linked to his family

SUNIL TATKARE: Faces corruption, money laundering probes. His daughter Aditi on Sunday took oath as first woman minister in Shinde-Fadnavis govt

PRAFUL PATEL: Faces money-laundering probe by ED

Will handle revolt, rebuild party: Pawar

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

PUTTING up a brave front over the revolt of his nephew, NCP founder and party chief Sharad Pawar on Sunday said he will rebuild the party. Taking a jab at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said the credit for NCP leaders joining hands with the BJP goes to him. "A few days ago, in his rally in Bhopal, Modi criticised and raised the corruption issue of NCP leaders. Now, those 'corrupt' leaders joined hands with the BJP and became ministers. It means the PM's allegations have no value. They all got the clean chit after joining hands with the BJP. I am happy for it and am grateful to the PM as well."

Asserting that he will handle the revolt, Sharad Pawar said this is not the first time he is facing such challenges.

"It's not new for me. I have full faith in the people of Maharashtra," he said, adding: "I am confident that I will repeat 1980 situation. That time also, out of total 58 MLAs, 56 MLAs left me. But in the elections, we fielded fresh faces and all of them got elected."

Reshuffle buzz: PM to hold meet today

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMID the heightened buzz of a Cabinet reshuffle, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold a meeting of the Union Council of Ministers on Monday.

Sources said more than a dozen new faces are likely to be inducted into the Cabinet and an announcement in this regard would follow Modi's meeting with ministers on Monday.

As per the sources, the new Cabinet will have one new face from Madhya Pradesh, one from Chhattisgarh, two from Rajasthan, two or three from Maharashtra, two or three from Bihar, two from Telangana, and two from any other south Indian state. As per sources, names of non-BJP leaders Praful Patel (Nationalist Congress Party) and Chirag Paswan (chief of Ram Vilas faction of Lok Janshakti Party) feature prominently among the likely inclusions in the new Cabinet.

BJP lawmakers expected to make it into the Cabinet include Sanjay Bandi, C T Ravi, Janardhan Singh Sigriwal, Vivek Thakur, C R Patil, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, and Suresh Gopi. Around 15 ministers could be dropped and assigned the work of organising the party ahead of the Lok Sabha elections. V K Singh, Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala, Birendra Kumar, Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Dharmendra Pradhan, Piyush Goyal, Giriraj Singh, Pashupati Kumar Paras, Narendra Tomar, Mahendra Pandey, and Ajay Mishra are among those who may be let go. Modi in recent days held a series of consultations with senior party leaders to give shape to his new Cabinet.

24 newborns shifted after short-circuit at Hassan hosp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hassan

TENSION prevailed after a short-circuit in one of the neonatal intensive care units (NICU) at the Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences (HIMS) on Sunday. At least 24 newborns were rescued and shifted to an adjacent ward.

There was panic as the entire ward was covered with thick smoke and the gas cylinder inside the NICU started leaking, sources said. One of the nurses put off the switch and informed the resident doctor and medical superintendent.

Duty nurses and the staff broke the windowpanes and shifted the babies to an adjacent ward with the help of parents. All the newborns are safe, another source said. Fire personnel rushed to the hospital and controlled the situation.

HIMS Director Dr Ravikumar visited the ward, while Medical Superintendent Dr Krishnamurthy said the reason for the short-circuit is yet to be known.

Nurses and relatives shift newborns to another ward at HIMS in Hassan on Sunday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

Even those with arrears eligible for Gruha Jyothi

BENGALURU: Even those beneficiaries with electricity bill arrears are eligible for the Gruha Jyothi scheme that promises 200 units of free power, BESCOM said. However, it said the arrears have to be cleared before September 30. Also, those who seek the benefit starting in August should register before July 25.

45 in hosp after drinking contaminated water

BALLARI: As many as 45 people were hospitalised after they consumed contaminated water at Siddapur village in Sandur taluk of Ballari district three days ago. The reports of water samples that were tested confirmed contamination, which could have been caused due to the recent floods | P3

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